

2004 Current Fiscal Year Report: Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Building Products and Other Materials for Trade Policy Matters (ISAC 9)

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

2. Fiscal Year

2004

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Building Products and Other Materials for Trade Policy Matters (ISAC 9)

3b. GSA Committee No.

344

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year? 5. Current Charter 6. Expected Renewal Date 7. Expected Term Date

No 03/17/2004 03/18/2004 06/16/2004

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? 8b. Specific Termination Authority 8c. Actual Term Date

Yes 06/16/2004

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? 10b. Legislation Pending?

Terminate No

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority 13. Effective Date 14. Committee Type 14c. Presidential?

19 U.S.C. 2155 01/03/1975 Continuing No

15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports 5

16b. Report Date

Report Title

02/12/2004	ISAC 9 Priority Trade Issues
03/06/2004	ISAC 9 Statutory Advisory Report on U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement.
03/06/2004	ISAC 9 Statutory Advisory Report on U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement
04/02/2004	ISAC 9 Statutory Advisory Report on U.S.- Morocco Free Trade Agreement.
04/16/2004	ISAC 9 Statutory Advisory Report on U.S.-Dominican-Republic Free Trade Agreement

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 5

17a. Open 0 17b. Closed 4 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 4

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
To discuss High-Priority Trade Issues, the Department of Commerce Manufacturing Initiative, Free Trade Agreement in the Americas negotiations, the free trade agreement with CAFTA, the Free Trade Agreement with Australia, WTO compatibility with several free trade agreements, China business issues, EU enlargement negotiations, and high foreign tariff rates.	02/12/2004	02/12/2004
To discuss and approve the Committee's reports on the CAFTA-US FTA and the Australia-US FTA.	03/04/2004	03/04/2004
To discuss and approve the Committee's report on the Morocco-US FTA.	04/01/2004	04/01/2004
To discuss and approve the Committee's report on the Dominican Republic-US FTA.	04/15/2004	04/15/2004

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 4

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$54,300.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$54,300.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.30	0.30

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

ISAC 9 provided advice and recommendations on a wide range of trade policy issues affecting the building products industry. Key issues in FY 2004 included: Doha Round of WTO negotiations, CAFTA-US Free Trade Agreement, Australia-US Free Trade Agreement, Morocco-US Free Trade Agreement Free Trade Area of the Americas negotiations, Environmental Regulations and Global Warming, China WTO Compliance, Building Product standards, and Dominican Republic-US Free Trade Agreement. Other issues included: DoC Manufacturing Initiative, Super 301 report on foreign trade barriers, Generalized System of Preferences, High Foreign Tariff Rates, Foreign corrupt practices, Foreign sales corporations, and European Union enlargement. ISAC 9 accomplished most of its work at the regular meetings held quarterly. During these meetings, the Committee advised U.S. officials who want industry advice, and conversely, the Committee was briefed by U.S. officials on subjects of concern to the building products industry. As part of the advisory process, ISAC 9 produced a quarterly priorities statement, which states the highest-priority trade issues and the ISAC position on these issues. This priorities statement is reviewed and updated at each meeting given informally to interested trade officials at USTR and Commerce. The Committee also prepared four reports on the four FTAs that were concluded between Oct. 1, 2003 and May 1, 2004:

Cafta-US FTA, Australia-US FTA, Morocco-US FTA, and Dominican Republic-US FTA.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

ISAC 9 represents most of the wide variety of building materials that are produced by this sector. Among the many products represented are: glass, window screens, gypsum board, ceiling tiles, floor tiles, vinyl flooring, insulation, plumbing products, door locks, prefabricated housing, insulation, steel pipe, cement, and builders' hardware. The membership is mostly drawn from large companies, although two small businesses are represented. Two of the members are trade associations, which often reflect the views of smaller businesses.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee meets approximately four times a year. However, the actual number of meetings is dictated by Government need for private sector advice. The U.S. Government will be engaged in multilateral and bilateral trade policy initiatives including Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development issues, Japan, World Trade Organization implementation and accession by Russia, China, Saudi Arabia, and other countries, and enforcement of trade agreements. The advice the Government receives from the private sector through the advisory committee will be an on-going process and will be an intrinsic part of developing U.S. positions for all policy negotiations.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Committee structure ensures a unique source of information to the Government. All members have security clearances and through a continuing dialogue with Government officials are made aware of Government trade policy at a level not otherwise available to the private sector. Because this Committee remains current in the broad spectrum of trade policy rather than a single facet--as would be the case in the absence of a committee structure--the private sector input from the committee is more pertinent. The advisory committee program, legislatively mandated, is the single formal comprehensive consultative link between the U.S. Government and U.S. industry and has the responsibility to address all issues concerning trade policy.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The Industry Consultations Program was established by the Trade Act of 1974 and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Subsection 135(f) of the Trade Act provides that the ISACs shall be exempt from the provisions of the FACA relating to open meetings, public notice, public participation, and public availability of

documents when it is determined that the proceedings would, if disclosed, seriously compromise the Government's negotiating objectives or bargaining positions regarding trade policy matters. ISAC meetings routinely involve these kinds of discussions. The United States Trade Representative (USTR) evaluates each meeting agenda and issues a Notice of Determination when it is necessary to close meetings.

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

Patrick H. MacAuley DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bell, Robert	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	USG Corporation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bruce, John	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Representing Tile Council of America	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Farrar, Stephen	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Guardian Industries Corporation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Higgins, Barbara	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Plumbing Manufacturers Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lawless, K.	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Almerica Overseas, Inc	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lyons, Marcus	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	American Cast Iron Pipe Company	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mudford, Anthony	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Detex Corporation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Randall, Robert	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	TRACO, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Santomeno, Charles	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Isolatek International	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sorensen, Kent	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	American Homes International	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

The Committee provided advice and recommendations on a wide variety of trade policy issues affecting the building products industry, such as the Free Trade Agreement in the Americas, the DOC Manufacturing Initiative, the CAFTA-US Free Trade Agreement, and the Australia-US Free Trade Agreement. The Committee accomplished most of its work at meetings and teleconferences.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety



Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

The committee provides inside business information to trade negotiators, which helps negotiators to develop better trade policies. This is valuable information, but we cannot estimate the cost of obtaining this information because it would be otherwise unobtainable.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

5

Number of Recommendations Comments

During FY2004 the committee submitted 5 written reports. In addition the committee provides oral advice and specialized industry information during closed meetings.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or

will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

US trade officials listen to advice, and take it into consideration, but are not required to implement it in whole or in part.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NA

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

NA